

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

**Please replace the present title with the following rewritten title:**

IMAGE DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR IMAGE PROCESSING

**Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 1 and 2 as follows:**

B1 In recent years, digital ~~camera has~~ cameras have been rapidly propagated, and an image produced by a heat sublimation transfer printer has picture quality as high as a picture obtained by silver salt photography. On the other hand, personal ~~computer has~~ computers have been propagated and are now generally used in each private home, and it is now possible for ~~the~~ users to incorporate data from the digital camera into the personal computer and to print out the image by themselves. However, the printers to provide images of high quality are expensive, and many of the users are not yet fully familiarized with the operation of personal computers. Under such circumstances, there have appeared specialty stores for providing services to print out from the media where data from digital camera are stored, or there are also unmanned self-service printing stations. A new type of such printing station has been proposed (Japanese Patent Publication Laid-Open 10-341303), which has the functions to settle the charge paid in cash or using card. When a predetermined amount of money is paid, image data are read from a medium where data from the digital camera are stored or directly from the digital camera, and the data are displayed on a monitor. Then, necessary image data are specified and printed out, or when it is necessary to have an image of high quality, the image data are transmitted to the specialty store via a network, and the obtained prints are sent to the users by a commercial delivery service.

**Please amend the paragraph on page 2, spanning lines 8-16 as follows:**

---

B2 In the conventional type printing station of the patent as described above, it is disclosed that the image data from the digital camera are read and are printed out, while there is no description on such features that the read image data are placed under management and are effectively utilized. Many of the users who have a digital camera not only cannot print out the images by themselves but also cannot perform good management for the data of the photographed image.

---

**Please amend the paragraphs spanning page 2, line 22 to page 3, line 13 as follows:**

---

B3 The image data management system according to the present invention comprises a plurality of printing stations with functions to read digital image data, to print the data by performing necessary image processing and to transmit or receive the image data, a management system connected to each printing station via a network and used for identifying management data of each printing station and for distributing necessary data to each printing station, and a server for turning the image data (being transmitted from each printing station to the management system) to a database and for storing the data.

Further, the present invention provides an image data management system as described above, wherein the image data turned to a database has image categories as attribute information.

Also, the present invention provides an image data management system as described above, wherein the image data turned to a database contains ~~an~~ information for public disclosure of the image as attribute information.

---

**Please amend the last paragraph on page 3 as follows:**

BH Further, the present invention provides an image data management system as described above, wherein the printing station comprises a photographing equipment and a photograph for certification ~~purpose~~ purposes can be prepared.

**Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 4 and 5 as follows:**

B5 A printing station 100 is installed at an adequate place such as railway stations, public facilities, convenience stores, etc., and each printing station comprises a computer for performing various types of data processing such as processing of charges, reading of the image data, processing of the image data thus read, communication processing, and outputting of the data, a monitor screen, a touch panel, a plurality of printers for outputting the image, a printer for printing receipts, a scanner, etc. When a user gives a predetermined amount of fee into this device or pays the fee using a payment card, image data are read from storage medium in the digital camera and the data are displayed on the monitor screen. Then, an image specified on the touch panel is printed out and a receipt for the received amount of fee is issued. As to be described later, the image data thus read can be transferred via a network. Also, a camera and an illuminating equipment are installed on the printing station, and the photographed image is displayed on the monitor screen and is printed out, and a photograph to be used for certification purpose can also be prepared. In order that any user can perform this processing by simple operation procedure and in cheerful and pleasant manner, the printing station has various functions to provide audio guidance or sound ~~effect~~ effects.

**Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 8 and 9 as follows:**

---

As shown in Fig. 5, an attribute information is attached to each image data (Fig. 5 (a)).

The attribute information includes various types of information such as name, age, sex, occupation, address, and telephone number of the owner of the image data, category of image (such as an image of baby, a personal portrait, scenery, animal or plant, etc.), date of photographing, whether it is allowable for public disclosure or not, etc. (Fig. 5 (b)). The data are turned to database and are stored in a server 131. Therefore, the system serves as an image data bank, and this relieves the user from the burden to store the image data. It is also economical because an expensive storage medium can be used as many times as required. Further, anybody can have access to the image data allowable for public disclosure through a personal computer 150 in general use or through a terminal 151 at a publisher via a network, and the image data will be available to those who want to have the data upon payment of the predetermined amount of fee. It is needless to say that distribution of the data can be requested to the management system 130 from each of the printing stations and the necessary image data can be received.

---

**Please delete the present Abstract of the Disclosure and replace it with the following new Abstract of the Disclosure.**

*BN*  
The object of the system according to the present invention is to relieve the user from the burden of printing and storing image data from a digital camera and to effectively utilize the image data. The system comprises a plurality of printing stations ~~100~~ with functions to read digital image data, to print the data by performing necessary image processing and to transmit or receive the image data, a management system ~~130~~ connected to each printing station via a network ~~120~~ and used for identifying management data of each printing station and for distributing necessary data to each printing station, and a server ~~131~~ for turning the image data *st* ~~X~~ being transmitted from each printing station to the management system to database and to store the data.